

III. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Original) A film comprising at least one O₂ gas barrier layer substantially consisting of a mixture of an ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer (EVOH) and at least one multipolyamide, wherein the multipolyamide is made up of the 3 components

I) hexamethylenediamine/adipic acid (polyamide 6,6),

II) hexamethylenediamine/azelaic acid (polyamide 6,9) and/or hexamethylenediamine/sebacic acid (polyamide 6,10) and

III) hexamethylenediamine/isophthalic acid (polyamide 6,I) and/or hexamethylenediamine/terephthalic acid (polyamide 6,T).

2. (Original) A film according to claim 1, characterised in that the multipolyamide is made up of

a) 15-75 mol% of component I,

b) 15-65 mol% of component II and

c) 10-70 mol% of component III,

wherein the total quantity of components I-III must always add up to 100 mol%.

3. (Original) A film according to claim 1, characterised in that the multipolyamide is made up of

- a) 15-60 mol% of component I,
- b) 15-55 mol% of component II and
- c) 10-45 mol% of component III,

wherein the total quantity of components I-III must always add up to 100 mol%.

4. (Original) A film according to claim 1, characterised in that the multipolyamide is made up of

- a) 35-55 mol% of component I,
- b) 15-55 mol% of component II and
- c) 10-30 mol% of component III,

wherein the total quantity of components I-III must always add up to 100 mol%.

5. (Currently Amended) A film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, characterised in that the ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer consists of 20-50 mol% ethylene, preferably 42-48 mol% ethylene, particularly preferably 38-48 mol% ethylene.

6. (Currently Amended) A film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, characterised in that the O₂ gas barrier layer consists of a mixture of 10-45 wt.% EVOH and 55-90 wt.%

multipolyamide, in each case relative to the total quantity of the mixture.

7. (Original) A film according to claim 6, characterised in that the O₂ gas barrier layer consists of a mixture of 20-40 wt.% EVOH and 60-80 wt.% multipolyamide, in each case relative to the total quantity of the mixture.

8. (Currently Amended) A film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~, containing at least one outer layer, preferably two outer or surface layers, at least one of which layers is heat-sealable.

9. (Original) A film according to claim 8, characterised in that a mixture of ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer (EVA) and LLDPE (linear low density polyethylene) is used as the outer layer material.

10. (Original) A film according to claim 9, characterised in that a mixture of 40-65 wt.% of an ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer and 35-60 wt.% of LLDPE, wherein the total quantity of the polymer components must always add up to 100 wt.%, is used as the heat-sealing layer material.

11. (Currently Amended) A multilayer film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~, characterised in that it is made up of the O₂ gas barrier layer and 2 outer layers.

12. (Original) A film according to claim 11, characterised in that the layers are in each case joined together by a coupling agent layer.

13. (Original) A film according to claim 12, characterised in that the coupling agent layers are based on a mixture of maleic anhydride-grafted ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer and LLDPE.

14. (Currently Amended) A film according to claim 12 ~~or 13~~, characterised in that at least one coupling agent layer is coloured.

15. (Currently Amended) A film according to claim 1~~any one of claims 1-14~~, characterised in that the film is monoaxially, preferably biaxially, drawn.

16. (Currently Amended) A film according to claim 1~~any one of claims 1-15~~, characterised in that the film comprises at least one crosslinked layer.

17. (Currently Amended) A film according to claim 1~~any one of claims 1-16~~, characterised in that the film is shrinkable.

18. (Currently Amended) Use of a film according to claim 1~~any one of claims 1 to 17~~ for packaging perishable, gas-releasing products, preferably foodstuffs.

19. (Original) Use according to claim 19 for packaging cheese, preferably cheese which is still ripening.

20. (Currently Amended) Use according to claim 19 ~~or claim 20~~ for packaging semi-hard and/or hard cheese.

21. (Currently Amended) Packaging for perishable, gas-releasing products, preferably foodstuffs, made from a film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 17~~.

22. (Currently Amended) Packaging for cheese made from a film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 17~~.

23. (Currently Amended) A cheese ripening pouch made from a film according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 17~~.